

# **M-AUDIO**

## **Fast Track Ultra 8R**

**Rack-mountable 8 x 8 USB 2.0 Audio Interface  
with MX Core DSP Technology**

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English  
**Quick Start Guide**

# Introduction

Thanks for choosing M-Audio Fast Track Ultra 8R, the professional audio and MIDI interface for your Windows or Macintosh computer. Using the convenience and dependability of the industry-standard USB 2.0 bus, Fast Track Ultra 8R offers unequalled routing power and versatility, high-resolution, 24-bit audio at sampling rates up to 96kHz, sixteen channels of MIDI in and out and on-board DSP for a useful selection of reverb and delay effects.

This Quick Start Guide is designed to give you a basic overview of Fast Track Ultra 8R, to get you up and running quickly. Even if you are an experienced computer user and digital recording enthusiast, we suggest you take the time to read the accompanying User Guide, included on the Fast Track Ultra 8R CD-ROM. It will help you get the most out of your Fast Track Ultra 8R.

# What's in the Box

Your Fast Track Ultra 8R package contains the following:

- ▶ Fast Track Ultra 8R
- ▶ Breakout cable providing MIDI and S/PDIF I/O connectors
- ▶ Printed Quick Start Guide
- ▶ Fast Track Ultra 8R CD-ROM, including drivers and documentation
- ▶ Software Bundle Disc
- ▶ USB Cable
- ▶ 9VDC 4000mA power supply

# Minimum System Requirements

## Windows

Fast Track Ultra 8R is supported under Windows XP with Service Pack 2 or later, or Windows Vista (32-bit editions). It is not supported under Windows 2000, Windows 98, 98SE or Windows ME. Please see the note below regarding System Updates before making any updates to your operating system.

## Minimum System Requirements

### Windows XP with SP2

- 1.6 GHz CPU  
(CPU requirements may be higher for laptops)
- DirectX 9.0c
- Native USB 2.0 port
- 512 MB RAM

### Windows Vista (32-bit editions)

- 1.6 GHz CPU  
(CPU requirements may be higher for laptops)
- Native USB 2.0 port
- 1 GB RAM

Mac OS X

Fast Track Ultra 8R is supported by Intel-based or PowerPC-based Macs running Mac OS X version 10.4.11 or 10.5.2 or later.

Minimum System Requirements\*

PowerPC

Mac OS X – 10.4.11 / 10.5.2  
Native USB 2.0 port  
512 MB RAM  
G4 1GHz CPU  
(G4 accelerator cards  
not supported)

Intel

Mac OS X – 10.4.11 / 10.5.2  
Native USB 2.0 port  
512 MB RAM  
Intel CPU

*\*M-Audio suggests that you also check the minimum system requirements for your audio software, as they may be greater than the above.*

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** *Fast Track Ultra 8R has been designed as a USB 2.0 device. USB 1.1 operation is not supported.*

**A Note About System Updates:** *Please check the M-Audio driver download page at <http://www.m-audio.com/drivers> for the availability of an updated driver before you decide to install operating system updates.*

*Before new M-Audio device drivers are released, they are tested for use with the operating system versions that are available at that time. When updates for an operating system are released by Microsoft or Apple, all M-Audio device drivers have to be re-tested and possibly updated to ensure proper operation.*

*M-Audio recommends refraining from installing operating system updates until a driver has been posted to the M-Audio website for that specific operating system.*

# Installing Fast Track Ultra 8R

## Installation Instructions for Windows XP and Vista

**PLEASE NOTE:** Make sure Fast Track Ultra 8R is detached from your computer when beginning the installation. The following instructions will indicate when you should connect the interface to your computer.

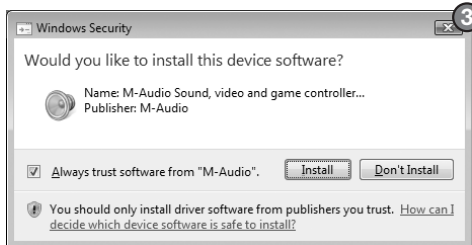
1. We recommend that you download the most recent Fast Track Ultra 8R drivers by going to the Support > Drivers page at [www.m-audio.com](http://www.m-audio.com). This ensures that you have the newest drivers available. If you do not have Internet access, insert the Fast Track Ultra 8R CD-ROM into your computer to install the drivers that came with the interface.

- a. If you are installing drivers from the Fast Track Ultra 8R CD-ROM, the computer will automatically display the interactive install screen ① when the CD-ROM is inserted. If your computer fails to launch this application, you can manually start it by clicking on Start > My Computer\* > Fast Track Ultra 8R CD-ROM. Next, select Fast Track Ultra 8R from the menu and click "Install."



*\*If you are using Windows Vista, "My Computer" will be labeled "Computer" in this step.*

- b. If you are installing drivers from [www.m-audio.com](http://www.m-audio.com), simply double-click the file once it has finished downloading.
2. Follow the driver installer's on-screen instructions.
  3. At various points in this installation process, you may be notified that the driver being installed has not passed Windows Logo Testing, or asked whether the program you wish to run is a trusted application. Click "Continue Anyway" ② (Windows XP) or "Install" ③ (Windows Vista) to proceed with installation.



4. Once the installer has completed, click "Finish."

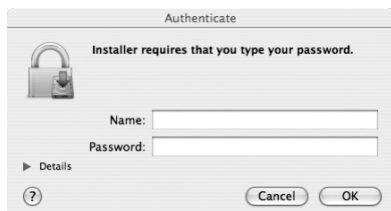
5. Connect Fast Track Ultra 8R to a power outlet and to an available USB 2.0 port on your computer.
6. Turn on Fast Track Ultra 8R. If you are using Windows Vista, your Fast Track Ultra 8R installation is now complete. If you are using Windows XP, proceed to steps 7-10.
7. Windows XP will identify the interface and will ask if you want to search the Internet for a driver. Select “No, not this time” and press “Next”. ④
8. Windows XP will display a Found New Hardware Wizard. Choose “Install the software automatically” and click “Next.” ⑤
9. Once the Wizard has completed, click “Finish.” You may be presented with a second Found New Hardware Wizard. If so, then repeat steps 7-10.
10. When the installation is complete, you will see a message stating “Your new hardware is installed and ready to use.”



## Installation Instructions for Mac OS X

1. We recommend that you download the most recent Fast Track Ultra 8R drivers by going to the Support > Drivers page at [www.m-audio.com](http://www.m-audio.com). This ensures that you have the newest drivers available. If you do not have Internet access, insert the Fast Track Ultra 8R CD-ROM into your computer to install the drivers that came with the interface.
  - a. If you are installing drivers from the Fast Track Ultra 8R CD-ROM, a CD-ROM icon will appear on your desktop once the disc is inserted into your computer. Double-click this icon to view the contents of the disc. Next, double-click “Open Me.” Finally, select your product from the drop-down menu on the welcome screen ① and click “Install.”
  - b. If you are installing drivers from [www.m-audio.com](http://www.m-audio.com), the downloaded file should automatically mount and display its contents. If this file does not automatically mount after it has finished downloading, click on the file from the download stack (Mac OS X 10.5), or double-click the file from the desktop (Mac OS X 10.4) to display its contents. Next, double-click the installer application.

2. Follow the driver installer's on-screen instructions. During Installation, Mac OS X will ask you to enter your user name and password. Enter this information and click OK to confirm. If you have not configured a password for your computer, leave the password field blank and click OK. If you are not the computer's owner, ask the owner or your Administrator for the missing information.



3. When the installer has completed, click "Restart." Your computer will reboot automatically.
4. After your computer has finished starting up, connect Fast Track Ultra 8R to a power outlet and to an available USB 2.0 port on your computer.
5. Turn on Fast Track Ultra 8R.

## Recording Analog Inputs

Connect microphones or line level sources via the rear-panel combo XLR/TRS inputs, or electric instruments via the front-panel Instrument inputs (channels 1 and 2), making sure the Mic/Line - Instrument selector switches are set to the correct input. Use the gain pots to set the recording levels, making sure that the LED Clip meters are never lit red. Engage Phantom Power if using condenser Microphones. If using the line inputs, the gain pots for the associated mic inputs should be turned down to avoid unwanted noise. See the User Guide for more information on recording input sources.

## Recording Digital Inputs

Connect a digital S/PDIF source to the rear-panel S/PDIF input. Go to the Settings tab in the Fast Track Ultra 8R control panel and select S/PDIF as the clock source to ensure proper digital clocking. See the User Guide for more information on digital synchronization.

## Adjusting the Output Level

Connect Fast Track Ultra 8R's rear-panel line outputs to a mixing console, amplifier or powered monitors. Outputs 1 and 2 can be directly controlled by the front-panel main output level knob. Other outputs are controlled via your DAW application or the Fast Track Ultra 8R Control Panel.

## Headphone Monitoring

Use the "Monitor 1/2" and "Monitor 3/4" Control Panel tabs to create separate monitor mixes for the first and second headphone outputs. The first headphone jack outputs the same audio signal as rear-panel outputs 1/2 while the second headphone jack outputs the same audio signal as rear panel outputs 3/4. See the Fast Track Ultra 8R User Guide section titled "Monitor Tabs" for more information about creating monitor mixes.

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## Warranty

### Warranty Terms

M-Audio warrants products to be free from defects in materials and workmanship, under normal use and provided that the product is owned by the original, registered user. Visit [www.m-audio.com/warranty](http://www.m-audio.com/warranty) for terms and limitations applying to your specific product.

### Warranty Registration

Immediately registering your new M-Audio product entitles you to full warranty coverage and helps M-Audio develop and manufacture the finest quality products available. Register online at [www.m-audio.com/register](http://www.m-audio.com/register) to receive FREE product updates and for the chance to win M-Audio giveaways.

**WARNING:** This product contains chemicals, including lead, known to the State of California to cause cancer, and birth defects or other reproductive harm. **Wash hands after handling.**



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## M-Audio USA

5795 Martin Rd., Irwindale, CA 91706

### Technical Support

web . . . . . [www.m-audio.com/tech](http://www.m-audio.com/tech)  
tel (pro products) . . . . . (626) 633-9055  
tel (consumer products) . . . . . (626) 633-9066  
fax (shipping) . . . . . (626) 633-9032

### Sales

e-mail . . . . . [sales@m-audio.com](mailto:sales@m-audio.com)  
tel . . . . . 1(866) 657-6434  
fax . . . . . (626) 633-9070

**Web** . . . . . [www.m-audio.com](http://www.m-audio.com)

## M-Audio U.K.

Floor 6, Gresham House, 53 Clarendon Road, Watford  
WD17 1LA, United Kingdom

### Technical Support

e-mail . . . . . [support@maudio.co.uk](mailto:support@maudio.co.uk)  
tel (Mac and PC support) . . . . +44 (0)1753 658630

### Sales

tel . . . . . +44 (0)1923 204010  
tel . . . . . +44 (0)1923 204039

**Web** . . . . . [www.maudio.co.uk](http://www.maudio.co.uk)

## Benelux

### Technical Support

Belgium tel . . . . . +32 22 54 88 93  
Holland tel . . . . . +31 35 625 0097

## M-Audio France

Floor 6, Gresham House, 53 Clarendon Road, Watford  
WD17 1LA, United Kingdom

### Renseignements Commerciaux

tel . . . . . 0 810 001 105  
email . . . . . [info@m-audio.fr](mailto:info@m-audio.fr)

### Assistance Technique

PC . . . . . 0 820 000 731  
Mac . . . . . 0 820 391 191  
e-mail (PC) . . . . . [support@m-audio.fr](mailto:support@m-audio.fr)  
email (Mac) . . . . . [mac@m-audio.fr](mailto:mac@m-audio.fr)  
fax . . . . . +33 (0)1 72 72 90 52

**Web** . . . . . [www.m-audio.com](http://www.m-audio.com)

## M-Audio Germany

Kuhallmand 34, D-74613 Ohringen, Germany

### Technical Support

email . . . . . [support@m-audio.de](mailto:support@m-audio.de)  
tel . . . . . +49 (0)7941 - 9870030  
tel . . . . . +49 (0)7941 - 98 70070

### Sales

e-mail . . . . . [info@m-audio.de](mailto:info@m-audio.de)  
tel . . . . . +49 (0)7941 98 7000  
fax . . . . . +49 (0)7941 98 70070

**Web** . . . . . [www.m-audio.de](http://www.m-audio.de)

## M-Audio Canada

1400 St-Jean Baptiste Ave. #150, Quebec City,  
Quebec G2E 5B7, Canada

### Technical Support

e-mail . . . . . [techcanada@m-audio.com](mailto:techcanada@m-audio.com)  
tel . . . . . (418) 872-0444  
fax . . . . . (418) 872-0034

### Sales

e-mail . . . . . [infocanada@m-audio.com](mailto:infocanada@m-audio.com)  
tel . . . . . (866) 872-0444  
fax . . . . . (418) 872-0034

**Web** . . . . . [www.m-audio.ca](http://www.m-audio.ca)

## M-Audio Japan

エムオーディオ／アビッドテクノロジー株式会社  
〒107-0052 東京都港区赤坂 2-11-7 ATT新館ビル4F  
Avid Technology K.K. | M-Audio  
4F ATT Bldg. 2-11-7 Akasaka, Minato-ku Tokyo  
107-0052 Japan

### 製品をお持ちのお客様 | Customer Support & Technical Support

online . . . . . <http://www.m-audio.jp/support>  
tel . . . . . 03-3505-4034

### 製品をお持ちでないお客様 | Pre Sales

e-mail . . . . . [sales@m-audio.jp](mailto:sales@m-audio.jp)  
tel . . . . . 03-3505-7963  
fax . . . . . 03-3505-3417

**Web** . . . . . [www.m-audio.jp](http://www.m-audio.jp)

**Web** . . . . . [www.m-audio.jp](http://www.m-audio.jp)

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